WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES **ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

Purpose of Checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for Applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or " does not apply". Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply". IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project", "applicant", and "property or site" should be read as "proposal", "proposer", and "affected geographic area" respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Homestead Valley Pit Revised Grading and Reclamation Plan

- 2. Name of Applicant: Fiorito Brothers Inc.
- 3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Applicant: Fiorito Brothers Inc.

1100 NW Leary Way Seattle, WA 98107

Tel. (206) 789 - 6110

August 16, 2004

4. Date checklist prepared:

5. Agency requesting checklist: Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Note: The State of Washington DNR has exclusive oversight for the review and approval of Surface Mine Reclamation permits and permits revisions (RCW 78.44.050).

Einar Gundersen, PE

4032 148th Avenue NE, Redmond, WA 98052

American Engineering Corporation

Tel. (425) 881-7430

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

The reclamation of the Homestead Valley Pit begun several years ago during the active phase of extracting sand and gravel from the mine. It is the intent to resume reclamation activities as soon as State and County permits are issued for this work. The timing for resuming the reclamation of the upper portion of the pit could begin this Fall of 2004. The reclamation for the lower portion would begin in 2005, and would likely extend into year 2006.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

The proposed plan covers all phases of reclamation for the site. There are no future expansion plans or activities connected with this reclamation proposal.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

Application for Reclamation permit - Form SM-8A.

The documents included as appendices to this checklist are as follows:

Exhibit A: Homestead Valley Pit Revised Grading and Reclamation Plan

Exhibit B: Geotechnical Report, Site Reclamation, Homestead Valley by GeoGroup Northwest, Inc.,

June 15, 2004.

Also including slope stability hazard concerns by Associated Earth Science, Inc., February

28, 1992.

Exhibit C: Geotechnical Report Addendum, June 21, 2004

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

There are no known applications pending for government approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by this proposal.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

King County Clear and Grade Permit - Annual Renewal

Washington Department of Natural Resources revised Surface Mine Operating permit, per RCW 78.44.091 – Annual Renewal

National Pollution Discharge Elimination Systems Permit (NPDES) - "Notice of Intent" on file

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The proposed project (Revised Grading and Reclamation) is for reclamation of a total area of approximately 21 acres. A portion of this area has previously been subject of reclamation activity, and the balance of area for resumed and additional reclamation is approximately 11.5 acres. This reclamation will take part on two separate parcels of land. The northern parcel is owned by Weyerhaeuser Co. and the southern parcel is owned by the Fiorito Brothers. Approximately 0.9 acres of existing vegetation is required to be removed so that proper slopes can be attained. Once the slopes are brought to finish grade, the disturbed areas will be vegetated with a ground cover seed mix containing mulch and fertilizer. Conifer saplings will also be planted on the benches. Furthermore, areas that have not been vegetated in the past will also be vegetated even though no further disturbance is to occur in these areas. The interim vegetation will be comprised of the ground cover described above. Eventually,

natural vegetation will take over, including alders and other native species of this area. Drainage control is provided using rock boulder reinforced on-site gullies and reinforced surface channels with discharge to off-site natural and existing man-made drainage systems. It is estimated that most of the runoff will infiltrate on site upon completion of final reclamation.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

Approximate address: See below for location. No address is currently available for this site.

Location: 7 miles east of North Bend, Wa.

Township, Section & Range: Portions of the NE and SE 1/4, of Sections 29, Twn 23 N, Rng 9 East, W.M. (A complete legal description of the four CU areas is contained on the cover of Exhibit A)

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

- Earth
 General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _______.
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

The existing steepest slope on the project site is in excess of 100%.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

The material are generally sand and gravel with layers of silty fine sand intermixed.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

There is one documented slide south of the access road dating back to December 1998. Since then, no know slides or unstable slopes have been documented outside of the immediate mining area.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

The revised grading and reclamation of the Homestead Valley Pit proposes both cut and fill. The cut on site will also be used as fill. No new material will be imported onto the site to be used as fill. Excess cut may be hauled offsite or used to make the final reclaimed slopes gentler near the toe of the final slope. The quantities for the proposed reclaimation are 170,800 CY of cut, and 156,700 CY of fill, giving a net cut of 14,100 CY.

Comment:

As evidenced by rills and deep gullies, the Homestead Valley site is unstable and is highly susceptible to erosion (DNR). Existing topsoil stockpiled on site will be placed at a depth of 0.5 feet to 1.0 feet on the Weyerhaeuser portion of the property. The Fiorito owned portion will receive 0.5 feet of topsoil, made from amended silty sand material also found on site.

Lastly, the Homestead Valley Pit is being reclaimed in accordance with the Reclamation Plans submitted to the WA Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe

Yes, erosion could occur during course of the reclamation work and thereafter. A great portion of on-site material used in reclamation contains a high content of silt and fine sand highly susceptible to erosion.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

None. The reclaimed area will be covered with topsoil and planted per the "Revised Grading and Reclamation Plan". No buildings or paved roads are proposed for the final reclamation.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

The Revised Grading and Reclamation Plan incorporates the following measures to reduce and control erosion:

- Three (3) existing rock (boulder) gullies constructed during past mining operations to control surface flow from major seepage zones on the mined slope.
- Armored channels to direct surface flow to appropriate points of discharge
- Sediment ponds to allow collection and settlement of runoff during reclamation construction
- Sloping intervening benches inward to allow for infiltration of as much as possible of surface runoff
- Seeding, mulching and fertilizing of denuded slopes as soon as possible after final grading of slopes
- Planting of Douglas fir seedlings to allow for long-term buffer protection of ground cover and bare dirt
- Introduction of red alder seeds to provide quick growth cover of denuded slopes
- Introduction of jute matting in transition slopes from reclaimed slopes to naturally steeper slopes.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e. dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

During the reclamation process, there will be emissions to the air including dust and heavy equipment emissions during mining, grading and related reclamation activities.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. **No**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Only limited number of pieces of heavy equipment will be required for the reclamation operation. Once reclaimed, no emissions or impacts to air quality should occur.

3. Water

a. Surface

 Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, and wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Yes. The South Fork of the Snoqualmie River is located approximately 400 feet south of the southern most limits of clearing. No other known creeks, streams, wetlands or other bodies of water are present on or near the site.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, describe and attach available plans.
- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material. None
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. No
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. **No**
- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. **No**

b. Ground

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No ground water will be withdrawn from the reclaimation area. During the reclaimation operations, stormwater will be intercepted and detained in temporary infiltration / sediment ponds. Once the final grading is completed the pit floor will be excavated to include an infiltration pond which will serve to infiltrate portions of the runoff with overflow to the natural drainage system.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, If any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural: etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are

expected to serve.

No discharges of chemicals to ground water will occur during the active mining operation. Once reclaimation is complete, fertilizers will be applied to stimulate growth in cleared areas that area to be reclaimed. Application rates are low and chemical run-off is not anticipated. These soil amendments will be taken up by ground cover and other re-vegetation.

- c. Water Run-off (including stormwater)
 - 1) Describe the source of run-off (including stormwater) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

The existing runoff generated from the site generally infiltrates into the ground due to the sandy and gravely soils on site. Currently two infiltration areas are present on the site.

During the reclamation increased runoff may occur during the grading operation. Stormwater runoff will be intercepted by swales, and infiltrated into the existing infiltration areas. However, overflows will be released to the natural discharge location. The storm water facilities have been designed to meet the requirements set forth in the 1998 King County Storm Water Drainage Manual as adopted by King County.

Permanent stormwater control systems placed during final site reclamation for the area will consist of a large infiltration pond which will serve to provide retention and infiltration. The benches and mine floor will be hydroseeded with ground cover and planted with trees, once reclamation grading and placement of topsoil/subsoil is complete per the "Revised Grading and Reclamation Plans", all runoff should infiltrate into the ground to mimic the hydrology of the pit prior to mining operations.

See the attached "Revised Grading and Reclamation Plans" (Exhibit A) for additional information about where water pathways and potential runoff could occur. Ultimate drainage facilities from the reclaimed pit is designed to meet quantity and quality requirements in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the 1998 King County Storm Water Design Manual.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No waste materials should enter ground or surface waters as a result of project activities.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and run-off water impacts, if any:

Methods to reduce or control surface runoff during the active reclamation include silt ponds excavated at the pit floor for infiltrating portions of the surface water during construction with overflow to man-made channels.

Permanent reclamation measures include benching and sinuous contours to provide a natural appearing site. In addition, the grading and excavation of the pit floor for infiltration is proposed. Revegetation is proposed over denuded

areas to provide natural stormwater retention serving to reduce and retard runoff. These measures will all have positive impacts on water quality.

4.	Plants
a.	Check or circle types of vegetation found on site:
	X Deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
	X Evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
	X Shrubs
	X Grass
	Pasture
	Crop or grain
	Wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other
	Water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
_	Other types of vegetation
ъ.	What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?
	The majority of the reclamation area is currently stripped of vegetative cover and was in the process of being reclaimed per the Reclamation Plans previously submitted to WSDNR (permit no. 12684) and KCDDES. Currently, no reclamation activities are being conducted on site. Reclamation will resume once the revised plans have been approved and permits issued by both the WSDNR and KC DDES. Small amounts of new vegetation will be disturbed as part of this revised permit. The reclaimed area will be graded and re-planted with ground cover (sicklekeeled, lupine, creeping red fescue, perennial rye, orchard grass, colonial bent grass, white clover, cereal rye and Douglas fir) in accordance with the "Revised Grading and Reclamation Plan".
c.	List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.
	None known
d.	Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:
	Under the final reclamation, the surface pit will be hydroseeded with ground cover and planted with trees once final grade has been met. Please refer to the "Revised Grading and Reclamation Plans" for further details on revegetation.
5.	Animals
a.	Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:
	Birds: Hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: Mammals: Deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: Small animals such as mice, etc. Fish: Bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: N/A
b.	List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.
	None known

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

No. The site is not known to be part of a migration route.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.

Homestead Valley Pit is comprised of approximately 24 acres of total work area over the last 50 years. This area is minimal in size, and therefore should minimize impacts on any wildlife within the area. Once reclamation is completed the pit will be planted with native vegetation to re-establish and/or enhance wildlife habitat within the area, and mimic the past conditions prior to mining.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

Electricity to run the temporary office/trailer and any possible pumps and conveyors if required. The need for energy resources are not anticipated once reclamation is complete.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None anticipated.

7. Environmental Health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

There should be no environmental health hazards associated with the reclamation of the Homestead Valley Pit. Only diesel-powered heavy equipment will be used on site during the reclamation and movement of earthen materials.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Firefighting or emergency medical services might be required in the event that an accident occurs on site.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

Trained equipment operators will carry out each step of the project, from the grading and movement of earthen materials to final phased reclamation. The operators will adhere to specifications contained in the active mining plans and the final site reclamation plans.

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

No types of noise exist in the area which may affect the project.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

During the reclamation operation and final reclamation of the Homestead Valley Pit, the project will generate noise as a result of heavy equipment operation used during mining, earthmoving and revegetation.

Approximate hours of equipment operation will be 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Once final reclamation is complete, the project will not generate any noise.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any.

There will be no increase in noise levels over the previous years of mining and screening of material for the Homestead Valley Pit. This area has been in process of getting reclaimed in the past, however, no operations currently exist on site.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The Homestead Valley Pit has been operated as an active gravel mine since the late 1950s. It is currently idle. The surrounding areas on all sides are zoned Forest and managed as such. The Fiorito mining parcel borders the North Fork of the Snoqualmie River which is also used for recreation. A portion of the south side of the river contains recreational lots as well.

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe. No
- c. Describe any structures on the site.

The pit currently contains a mobile office trailer, a scale house, and a maintenance building.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

All structures will be removed from the site upon final reclamation.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Forest (F)

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

The comprehensive plan designation for the entire site, is considered to be forest use.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Not applicable.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

No known environmentally sensitive areas exist on site.

I. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

No people would reside or work in the completed project area.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

No people would be displaced by the completed project.

- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any. None
- 1. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

The applicant is submitting for revised reclamation plans which includes a revegetation plan. The revegetation plan will include planting saplings such that the future use of the site will be forest.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle or low-income housing. **None**
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle or low-income housing.

 None
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: None

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas: what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Not applicable, no buildings are proposed.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

Currently the open pit can be viewed from the I-90 freeway. Once the pit is reclaimed and re-vegetated per the Homestead Valley Pit Reclamation Plans, the contours of the pit will be blended to match the adjacent of the landscape. After years of vegetation growth, this area will blend in with the surrounding areas, making it nearly impossible to see what once was a gravel pit.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

As part of the reclamation, the proposed contours will be graded to provide a

sinuous form and benches for stormwater control and also graded to blend in with the existing slopes. Furthermore, revegetation would restore ground cover and trees to the mined area. Topsoil will be placed on all exposed areas and revegetated to restore ground cover and trees to the mined area.

Aesthetic impacts to all cleared areas will be reduced or controlled by revegetation of the site in accordance with the "Revised Grading and Reclamation Plans"; therefore only minimal aesthetic impacts are expected once the site is fully reclaimed.

11. Light and Glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? **None**
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? **No**
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? None
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light or glare impacts, if any:

Not applicable

12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? Hiking and fishing
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: None

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

No places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers are known to be on or next to the site.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

None known.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

Not applicable.

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

The site is served by exit 38 off of I-90. Access to the site will continue to be via exit 38 off of I-90.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No, the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop is in North Bend, approximately 7 miles west of the site.

- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? Not applicable
- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). **Not applicable.**
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

The main access to the site is from exit 38, off of I-90. Little to no hauling should occur as a result of this project. All dirt will be taken and placed from different locations on site. Approximately 10 vehicle trips per day would occur during the reclamation phase. No vehicle trips per day will be generated once the pit is fully reclaimed.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: None

15. Public Services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

Not applicable.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None.

16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: **electricity**, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

 Not applicable

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.	I understand that
the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.	

Signature:

Date Submitted: August 16, 2004